Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10184 061803Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 ACDA-12 EB-08 AGRE-00 COME-00 STR-07 /117 W

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R 061736Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7663
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CONFIDENTIAL CAIRO 10184

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, EGEN, EEWT

SUBJ: USSR TO INCREASE EXPORTS TO EGYPT

REF: (A) CAIRO 4769, (B) CAIRO 8880

- 1. AL AHRAM APRIL 3 REPORTED RECENT MEETINGS IN MOSCOW OF MIN TRADE REPRESENTATIVE SADEK WITH SOVIET DEP MIN FOREIGN TRADE GRETCHEN AND DEP MIN FISHERIES RINEF (SIC) RESULTED IN USSR APPROVAL FOR INCREASE IN ITS EXPORTS TO EGYPT DURING 1978. ACCORDING TO PRESS, SHIPMENTS OF SOVIET NEWSPRINT TO EGYPT WILL INCREASE FROM 10,000 TO 13,000 TONS WHILE SHIPMENTS OF CARDBOARD WILL BE INCREASED FROM 6750 TO 9750 TONS. SOVIET FISH EXPORTS REPORTEDLY WILL EQUAL 40,000 TONS. PRESS DID NOT MENTION INCREASED EGYPTIAN EXPORTS TO SOVIET UNION.
- 2. COMMENT: EMBASSY CONTACTS AMONG EAST BLOC DIPLOMATS INTERPRET SIGNIFICANCE OF PRESS REPORTS DIFFERENTLY. CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 10184 061803Z

HUNGARIAN EMBOFF TOLD US APRIL 5 THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN GOE AND USSR ARE WARMING. RUSSIAN WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE TRADE INDICATIVE OF IMPROVED RELATIONS. POLISH COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR, HOWEVER, SAID TRADE INCREASE STRICTLY BUSINESS. GOE AND USSR AGREED IN FEBRUARY (REFTEL A) TO CONTINUE TRADE ON CASE BY CASE BASIS WITHOUT FORMAL 1978 TRADE PROTOCOL. FURTHER WARMING IN GOE/USSR RELATIONS WOULD

PROBABLY BE REFLECTED IN CONCLUSION OF 1978 PROTO	COL,
OR AT LEAST RESUMPTION OF PROTOCOL NEGOTIATIONS	EILTS

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